AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An aircraft, comprising:

a cargo compartment having a cargo compartment floor;

at least one functional unit selected from the group consisting of a water tank and a waste-water tank; and

a cargo compartment having a cargo compartment floor;

at least one functional unit selected from the group consisting of a water tank and a waste-water tank; and

a pallet supporting said functional unit, said pallet being adapted for the transportation of said functional unit into said cargo compartment and being provided with a fixation means that provides a stable connection to said cargo-compartment floor, such that the pallet lays on the cargo-compartment floor between the cargo-compartment floor and the functional unit;

wherein said at least one functional unit comprises at least one pipe connector, and

wherein said at least one pipe connector is connected to a corresponding pipe connector provided on or below said cargo compartment floor.

2. (Canceled).

3. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 1, wherein said cargo compartment comprises guide means adapted to guide said functional unit as it is being transported within the cargo compartment.

4. (Canceled).

5. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 1, wherein at least one section of a partition is mounted on said pallet.

6. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 5, wherein said functional unit is mounted on said at least one section of a partition.

7. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 5, wherein said partition comprises sealing means whereby it is sealed to parts of the aircraft defining said cargo compartment.

8. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 1, wherein said cargo-compartment floor comprises floor elements that are connected to supporting beams to form prefabricated floor modules.

9. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 8, wherein sections of conducting devices comprising at least one of cable channels, hydraulic conduits, water conduits, an air-conditioner duct and electrical leads are provided in the floor modules in such a way that those in one floor module connect with others of the same kind in adjacent floor modules to form overall conducting systems on installation in the aircraft.

10. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 9, wherein at least one of said conducting devices comprises a branch adapted for connection to a prespecified place on at least one of said floor elements and said functional unit.

11. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 8, wherein said cargo-compartment floor comprises a plurality of prefabricated floor modules and

wherein a plurality of assembly elements are provided to connect each of said floor modules to an adjacent floor module during or after installation in the aircraft.

12. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 8, wherein said floor elements comprise sealing devices adapted to seal off a space defined above said floor elements from a space defined below said floor elements.

13. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 8, wherein leakproof connecting elements are provided and form a leakproof connection between each of said floor elements and at least one of adjacent floor elements and the skin of the aircraft.

14. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 8, wherein drainage devices are provided to carry a liquid out of the cargo compartment and to transfer said liquid into a corresponding drainage device of an adjacent floor module.

15. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 8, wherein said floor modules comprise insulating devices adapted to insulate a lower portion of a fuselage of the aircraft.

16. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 15, wherein said insulating devices are attached below said floor elements and/or in the region of the supporting beams near to said skin of the aircraft.

17. (Previously presented) The aircraft according to claim 8, wherein said floor modules comprise at least one of a partition wall and a fixation device for a partition wall.

18. (Canceled).

19. (Currently amended) A method of installing functional units in an aircraft comprising a cargo compartment with a cargo-compartment floor, comprising the steps of:

providing at least one functional unit selected from the group consisting of a water tank and a waste-water tank, said functional unit comprising at least one pipe connector;

providing at least one pallet;

mounting said functional unit on said pallet outside the aircraft;

loading said functional unit mounted on said pallet into the aircraft;

transporting said functional unit mounted on said pallet over said cargo-compartment floor to a destination site in the cargo compartment;

fixing said functional unit mounted on said pallet to the cargo-compartment floor at the destination site; such that the pallet lays on the cargo-compartment floor between the cargo-compartment floor and the functional unit; and

connecting said at least one pipe connector to a corresponding pipe connector provided on or below said cargo compartment floor.

20. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein at least sections of partition walls are mounted on at least one of the pallets and the functional unit while they are outside the aircraft prior to installation therein.

21. (Currently amended) A pre-fabricated floor module for installation into an aircraft, comprising:

a floor element having elements for transporting and securing freight,

supporting beams spanning the width of the cargo deck, the supporting beams connected to said floor element and adapted for connection to a skin of an aircraft to form at least part of a floor of a cargo-compartment of said aircraft, and

sections of conducting devices located in the floor module,

wherein each section is configured and adapted for connection with another section of the same kind in an adjacent floor module,

wherein at least one of said conducting devices is selected from the group consisting of a hydraulic conduit, a water conduit and an air-conditioner duct, and

wherein at least one of said elements for transporting and securing freight is selected from the group consisting of roller elements, ball elements and powered roller-drive units.

22–23. (Canceled).

24. (Previously Presented) The floor module according to claim 21, comprising a plurality of assembly elements connected to said floor element and adapted to connect said floor module to adjacent similar floor modules during or after installation in the aircraft.

25–26. (Canceled).

27. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a cargo deck in an aircraft, comprising the steps of:

providing a floor element having elements for transporting and securing freight;

providing supporting beams spanning the width of the cargo deck adapted for connection to a skin of an aircraft to form at least part of a floor of a cargo-compartment of said aircraft;

providing sections of conducting devices;

assembling said floor element, said supporting beams and said sections of conducting devices such that said floor element is connected to said supporting beams and such that said floor elements, said supporting beams and said sections of conducting devices form a prefabricated floor module,

wherein said step of assembling is carried out outside said aircraft,

wherein at least one of said conducting devices is selected from the group consisting of a hydraulic conduit, a water conduit and an air-conditioner duct, and

wherein at least one of said elements for transporting and securing freight is selected from the group consisting of roller elements, ball elements and powered roller-drive units.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27, comprising the step of installing said prefabricated floor module into said aircraft.

29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27, wherein each of said sections of conducting devices is configured and adapted in said prefabricated floor module for connection with another section of the same kind in an adjacent floor module.

30–31. (Canceled).

32. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 27, wherein said supporting beams span an entire width of said cargo deck transverse to a longitudinal direction of said aircraft.

33. (Currently Amended) A method for providing a cargo deck in an aircraft, comprising the step of:

installing a plurality of prefabricated floor modules into said aircraft,

wherein each respective one of said plurality of prefabricated floor modules includes:

a floor element having elements for transporting and securing freight,

supporting beams spanning the width of the cargo deck connected to said floor element and adapted for connection to a skin of said aircraft to form at least part of a floor of a cargo-compartment of said aircraft, and

sections of conducting devices located in said respective floor module,

wherein each section is configured and adapted for connection with another section of the same kind in an adjacent floor module,

wherein at least one of said conducting devices is selected from the group consisting of a hydraulic conduit, a water conduit and an air-conditioner duct, and

wherein at least one of said elements for transporting and securing freight is selected from the group consisting of roller elements, ball elements and powered roller-drive units.

34–35. (Canceled).

36. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 33, wherein said supporting beams span an entire width of said cargo deck transverse to a longitudinal direction of said aircraft.

37. (Canceled).

38. (Previously presented) The pre-fabricated floor module of claim 21, wherein said pre-fabricated floor module is not connected to an aircraft.

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 33, comprising the step of providing, prior to said step of installing, said plurality of prefabricated floor modules at a location outside said aircraft.

40. (Currently Amended) An aircraft, comprising:

a cargo compartment having a cargo compartment floor;

at least one electrical equipment rack comprising at least one connection lead; and

a pallet supporting said at least one electrical equipment rack, said pallet being adapted for the transportation of said at least one electrical equipment rack into said cargo compartment and being provided with a fixation means that provides a stable connection to said cargo-compartment floor, such that the pallet lays on the cargo-compartment floor between the cargo-compartment floor and the functional unit;

wherein said at least one connection lead is connected to a corresponding connection lead provided on or below said cargo compartment floor.

41. (Currently Amended) A method of installing functional units in an aircraft comprising a cargo compartment with a cargo-compartment floor, comprising the steps of:

providing at least one electrical equipment rack comprising at least one connection lead;

providing at least one pallet;

mounting said at least one electrical equipment rack on said pallet outside the aircraft;

loading said at least one electrical equipment rack mounted on said pallet into the aircraft;

transporting said at least one electrical equipment rack mounted on said pallet over said cargo-compartment floor to a destination site in the cargo compartment;

fixing said at least one electrical equipment rack mounted on said pallet to the cargo-compartment floor at the destination site such that the pallet lays on the cargo-compartment floor between the cargo-compartment floor and the functional unit; and

connecting said at least one connection lead to a corresponding connection lead provided on or below said cargo compartment floor.